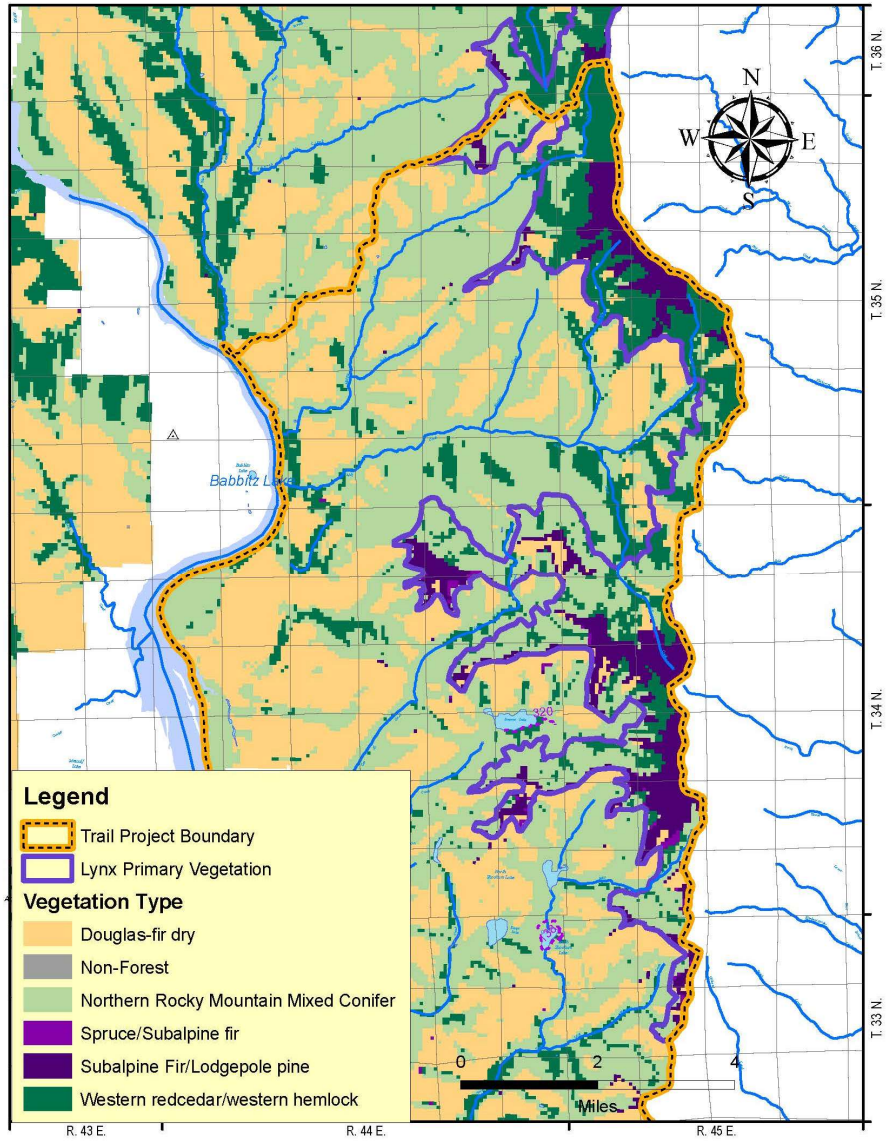
Trail Project Area:
Wildlife Habitat Management


2012-03-06 7:50:39 AM M 3/5 14°F
Threatened & Endangered Species: Canada lynx
PC800 HYPERFIRE PRO
RECONYX

Lynx inhabit forests at higher elevations (above 4,000 feet).

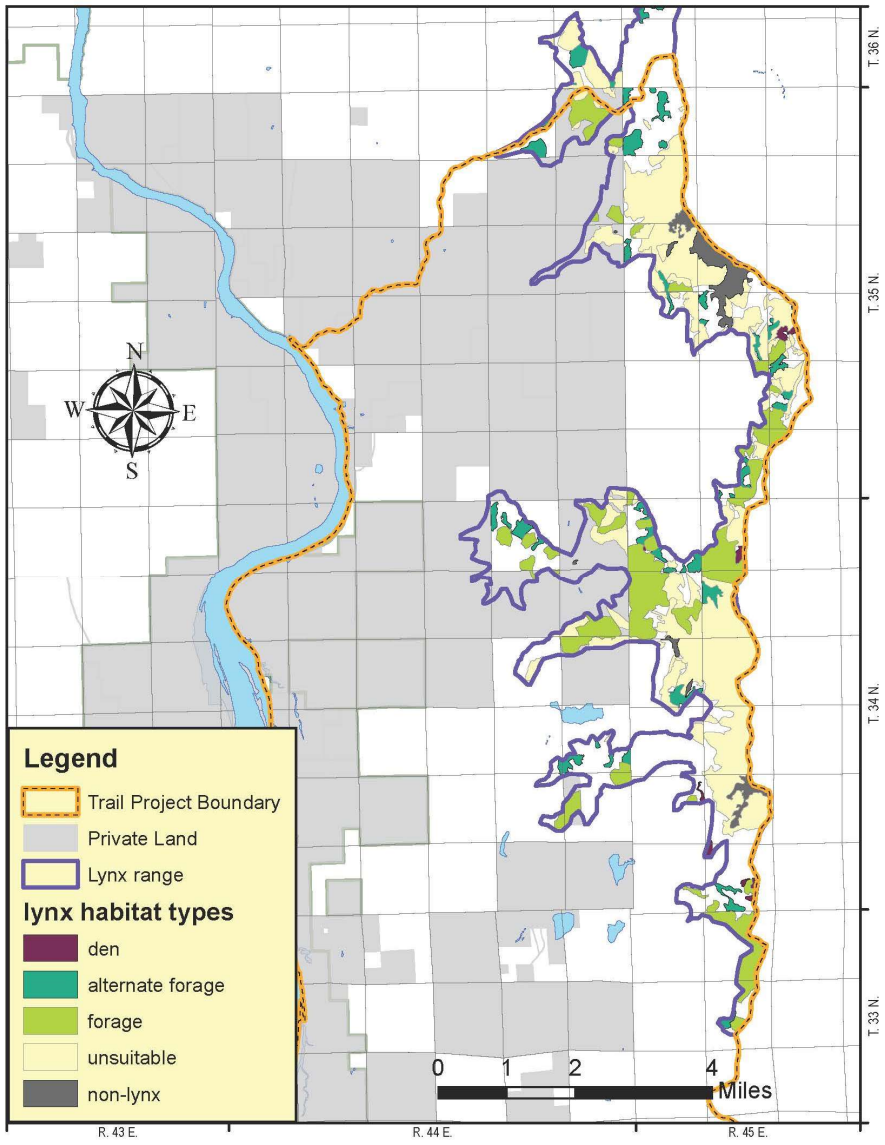
They are most closely associated with subalpine fir vegetation types.

Vegetation types & mapped lynx range



Selkirk Mountains (secondary area for lynx)

Provide a *mosaic* of forest structure that includes dense young stands and multi-story stands.



Dense young stands

Snowshoe hare habitat

Multi-story stands

These stands may provide den sites and foraging areas. Because they are rare, the Trail Project would not harvest these stands.

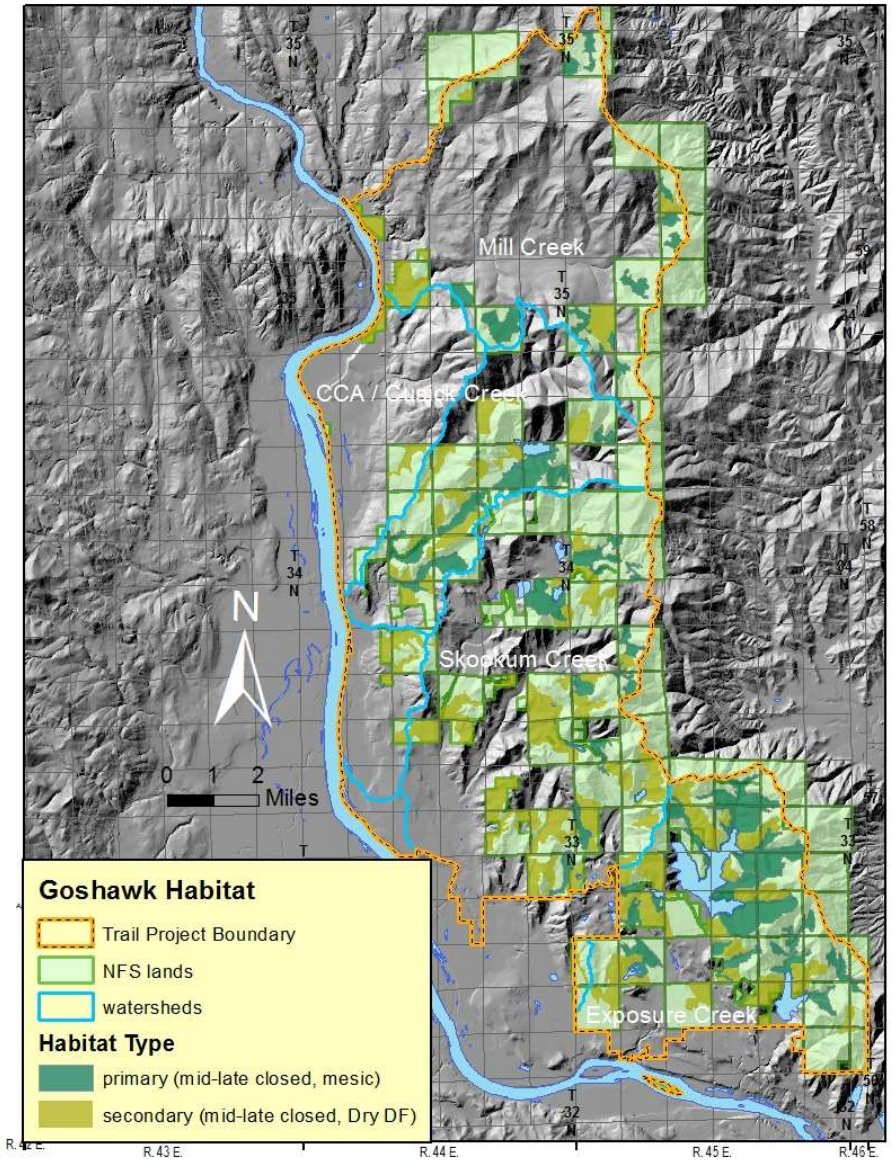
Un-suitable Habitat

Lynx are reluctant to cross recently created openings which lack concealing cover.

Because there is a surplus of openings on the lynx range, the Trail project would not create additional openings.

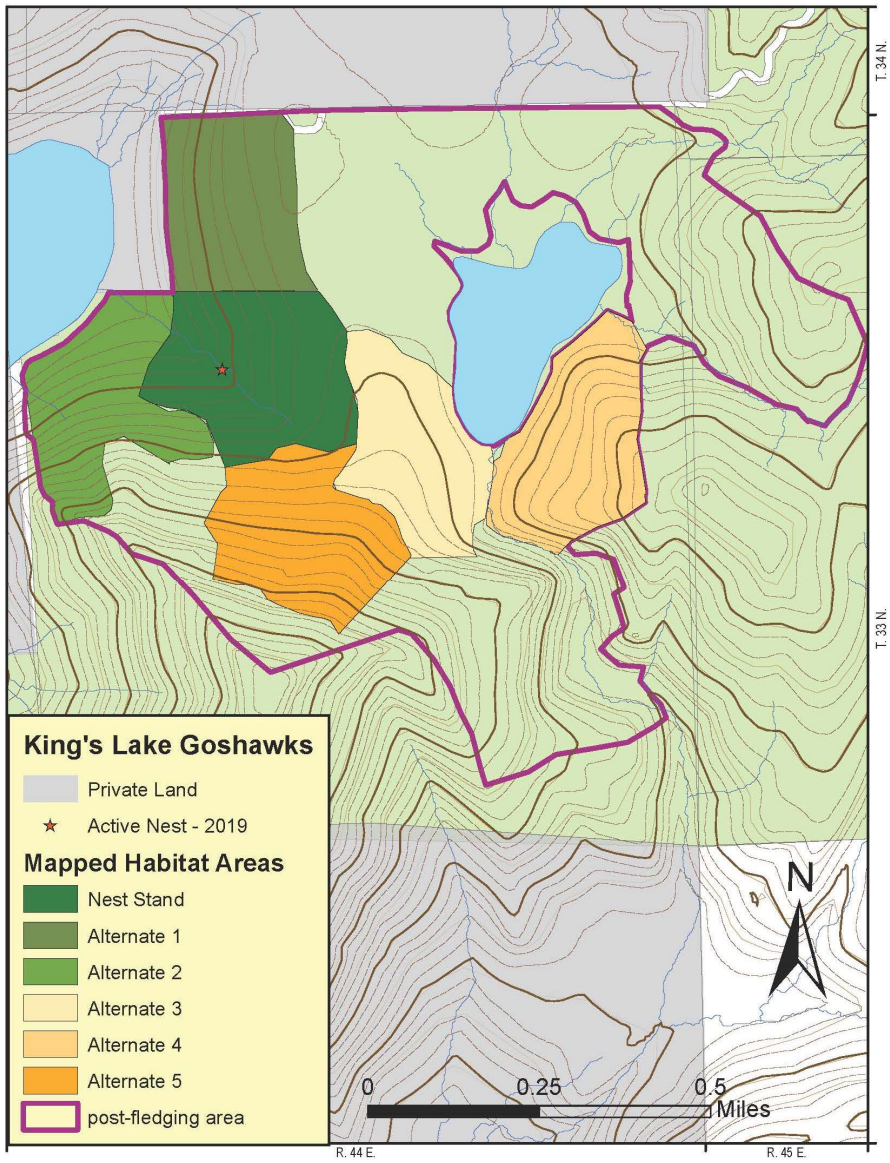

mid to late-
closed
associated
species

We mapped the current habitat to determine the departure from historic levels in each watershed (Churchill 2020).



“Primary Habitat”
- mid to late closed stands in the mesic vegetation types,
- goshawk nest stands,
- replacement nest stands.

Primary habitat would be conserved to assist in meeting historic habitat levels.



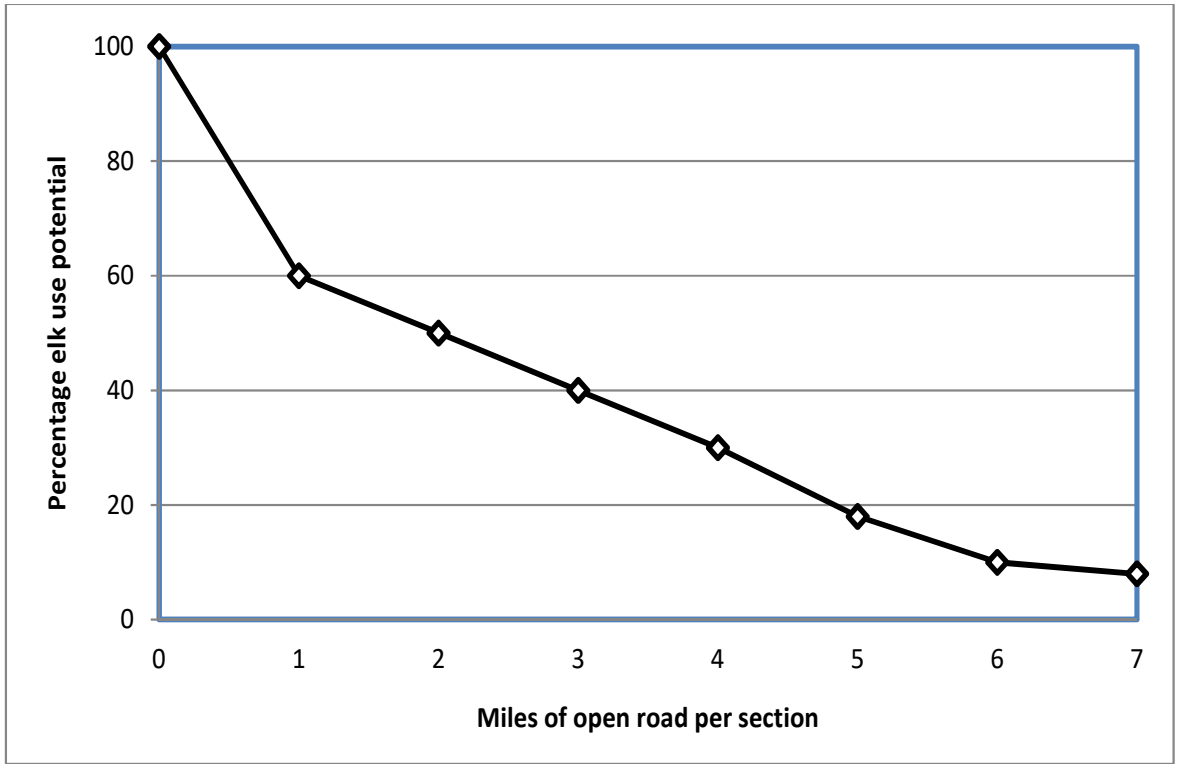
“Secondary Habitat”

Dry site stands available for harvest provided some habitat values for goshawks are maintained.

If a watershed has a *surplus* of habitat relative to historic conditions, that surplus could be harvested to accomplish other resource goals.

Roads and Wildlife

Open roads and elk habitat effectiveness



From Lyon et al. 1985

Existing road densities (NFS lands only)

Sub-watershed	Open Road mi. / sq. mile	Closed Road mi / sq. mile
CCA	2.5	2.5
Cusick	2.3	3.0
Exposure	1.2	1.8
Middle	1.6	2.1
Skookum	2.1	3.0

Elk habitat effectiveness in relation to open roads = 45 - 60%

New roads would be effectively closed following their use.

“Riparian roads” not needed for forest management would be obliterated (up to 46 miles).

Approximately 7 miles of open road would be closed.

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